



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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UNCTAD Conference

UNCTAD Conference: UN Conference on Trade and Development Opens 27 Apr

MB2704154296 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0955 GMT 27 Apr 96

[Report by Jonathon Rees]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MIDRAND April 27 SAPA — Heads of state and senior officials prepared on Saturday [27 April] to open a major United Nations conference on trade and development, hoping to find ways to include the world's two billion poor people in the global economy.

The ninth UN Conference on Trade and Development [UNCTAD], one of the largest UN gatherings on African soil, started with the election of Trade and Industry Minister Alec Erwin as UNCTAD president for the next four years.

President Nelson Mandela was due to join UN Secretary-General Butrus Butrus-Ghali at the formal opening of the conference later on Saturday afternoon at Gallagher Estate in Midrand north of Johannesburg.

About 2,500 delegates from 188 UN member states are in South Africa for UNCTAD IX, seeking ways to promote development and prosperity in a world with collapsing trade barriers and increased globalisation.

Erwin began his presidency with a pledge to build a new sense of purpose for UNCTAD. "It is time for boldness and a reassertion of our faith in humanity's ability to improve its condition," Erwin told delegates.

The UNCTAD meets from Saturday until May 11.

Unlike the World Trade Organisation, which has international trade as its focus, UNCTAD aims particularly to improve the lot of under-developed and developing countries, many of them in Africa. UNCTAD IX takes place with the theme of promoting growth and sustainable development in a newly-globalised and liberalised world economy — hoping to devise international development strategies into the next millenium.

South African officials made it clear this week that they would do everything possible to stop UNCTAD becoming a mere talkshop, a common criticism of UN and other international conferences. Under Erwin's presidency, the conference would see critical debate on important economic issues and conclude with tangible strategies for equitable international development, the officials said.

UNCTAD Conference: UN To Extend Peacekeeping Mandate in Angola

MB2504145596 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1441 GMT 25 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] JOHANNESBURG April 25 SAPA — United Nations secretary-general Butrus Butrus-Ghali on Thursday [25 April] expressed confidence in the Angolan peace process and said the UN would extend its peace-keeping mandate in Angola.

"I am sure Angola will be a success story," he told reporters shortly after arriving in South Africa for the ninth UN conference on trade and development [UNCTAD]. Ghali said he was delighted to be back in South Africa two years after attending President Nelson Mandela's inauguration.

"I wish to express my gratitude to President Nelson Mandela and the government and people of South Africa for their support of the UN and the increasingly important role played by South Africa in favour of peace and justice in the world and African affairs."

An example of South Africa's new international role was its hosting of UNCTAD, one of the largest UN gatherings held on African soil, he said. The conference, he said, should play a key role in addressing opportunities and difficulties in promoting growth and development of the world's economy. It should also define a new strategy to support developing countries and integrate into the global economy the world's two-billion poor and marginalised people.

UNCTAD Conference: Butrus-Ghali Warns of 'Widening Gap' Between Rich, Poor

MB2704171096 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1351 GMT 27 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MIDRAND April 27 SAPA — United Nations secretary general Butrus Butrus-Ghali on Saturday [27 April] warned of a widening gap between the world's rich and poor if marginalised countries were unable to benefit from new opportunities in the global economy.

"The global economy can be hard on those unable to benefit from its opportunities," he said in remarks prepared for delivery at the opening session of a UN Conference on Trade and Development [UNCTAD] meeting at Midrand north of Johannesburg.

The challenge for UNCTAD was to promote growth and sustainable development in the liberalised world economy. UNCTAD had been charged with ensuring international trade was a force for enduring development

of the world's people. Trade should be a key instrument of international economic development.

Unlike the World Trade Organisation, UNCTAD had underdeveloped and developing countries as its focus. UNCTAD should continue to be the "conscience" and advocate of these countries.

UNCTAD Conference: South African Minister Elected UNCTAD President

*MB2704151096 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0817 GMT 27 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MIDRAND April 27 SAPA — Trade and Industry Minister Alec Erwin was on Saturday [27 April] elected president of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development [UNCTAD], with a pledge to build a new sense of purpose for UNCTAD.

"It is time for boldness and a reassertion of our faith in humanity's ability to improve its condition," Erwin told delegates gathered at Gallagher Estate in Midrand, north of Johannesburg, for the ninth UNCTAD.

Erwin, 48, will hold the UNCTAD presidency for four years.

UNCTAD Conference: Mandela Addresses UN Trade and Development Conference

*MB2704173596 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1240 GMT 27 Apr 96*

[Speech by South African President Nelson Mandela at the opening of the ninth annual UN Trade and Development Conference in Midrand, Republic of South Africa, on 17 April; issued by the SAPA PR wire service]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Friends; distinguished guests;

It is common cause that the United Nations has to restructure itself to meet the demands of the new millennium. In equal measure UNCTAD [UN Conference on Trade and Development] has to forge for itself a new position in the world economy, in the light of these changes and needs, so that it is equipped to accomplish in the twenty-first century the objectives for which it was established.

Central to that new position, we are convinced, must be a "Partnership for Development", built on the ideas articulated by UNCTAD four years ago.

South Africa's own experience, as we grapple with the task of addressing our own wide disparities of wealth and poverty, highlights in particular three aspects of partnership.

Firstly, the changes in economic and trading groups which have taken place demand more flexible arrangements than a simple relation of developed to developing nation. For example, South Africa's relation to SADC [Southern African Development Community], of fundamental importance to us, is a partnership very different from our partnership with the European Union. As such, each partnership would require attention to particular needs and circumstances.

Secondly, development cannot be the responsibility only of government. Success requires governments to join hands with their social partners: non-governmental organisations; the private sector; and other parts of civil society.

Lastly, all these partners need to recognise that the potential contribution of the private sector to the development process is very great indeed, whether it is in infrastructure, technological change or human resource development. In this regard they should co-operate in making development an integral part of the pursuit of business, rather than an additional activity which it might or might not engage in.

Ladies and gentlemen;

We are confident that this conference will strengthen our shared commitment and create the basis for strengthening the world-wide partnership for development; for prosperity and for peace. We believe that it will promote concrete support by UNCTAD for building that partnership as well as for facilitating trade and investment.

We have a shared responsibility to roll back the harsh effects of past policies. And we owe it to future generations not to perpetuate patterns of domination and dependence; of pessimism and crude self-interest. Peace and development are indivisible. Without relief of the poverty which pervades much of the world, our democracy and human rights will for many only be a formality, and always remain in jeopardy.

We are confident that the United Nations, and this Conference in particular, will take the world forward along the road of partnership and responsibility in building just and equitable relations.

I wish you well in your deliberations, and hope you will have a memorable stay in our country.

Thank you.

**UNCTAD Conference: Jordan's King Husayn
Addresses Conference on Development**

*JN2704183796 Amman Radio Jordan Network
in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn today led the Jordanian delegation to the ninth United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, UNCTAD, international conference, which opened in Johannesburg today.

In comments during a roundtable discussion by five heads of state, the king reaffirmed the need to strengthen the means of exchange, cooperation, and coordination among countries to achieve the objectives of development and enhance the living standards of the people in participating countries. His majesty the king said in his remarks that the importance of this conference stems from the need of the participating countries to restructure their economy, particularly at a time when the world is witnessing many major political changes aimed at laying the foundations of stability and paving the way for an era in which economic development requires great efforts by countries and people.

King Husayn stressed the need to expand the horizons of economic cooperation among countries, modernize economic laws, and lift all restrictions that prevent the movement of capital or obstruct development. His majesty the king called for benefiting from the experience of other countries and peoples that once suffered from instability and were able to overcome their economic problems.

His majesty the king added that peace in the Middle East will provide a great opportunity to revive development on objective bases. He noted that economic cooperation and investment will effectively contribute to creating more humanitarian cooperation opportunities, which will reflect positively on the economic development of the region and will spread the spirit of stability.

King Husayn reaffirmed that helping the private sector play an investment role in the region's economy will help all of the people in the region benefit from the gains and strengthen the peace process. The king called on the rich countries and world financial institutions to find ways to ease the debt burdens of the poor countries, particularly in the Middle East, which is witnessing a new era of peace and stability.

The king said that democracy in Jordan is a firm fact that has contributed to building a cohesive Jordanian society in terms of culture and politics. He added that democracy is one of the pillars of building a national economy. [passage omitted]

**UNCTAD Conference: Further on Jordan's Husayn
Conference Remarks**

*JN2804065696 Amman Jordan Television Network
in English 1930 GMT 27 Apr 96*

[Remarks by Jordan's King Husayn during a "roundtable discussion" on the occasion of the inauguration of the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in Johannesburg on 27 April — recorded]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] [Unidentified questioner, in progress] My second question is to King Husayn of Jordan. Your Majesty, with political events in your region in the last two years, many aspect the Middle East to become a new area of fast economic growth. Now, in some of the fastest developing regions in the world, the economy has been marked by liberalization and globalization, and also regional integration. Does your majesty believe that if the peace process is successfully completed, similar regional integration will be possible in the Middle East, and also what difficulties could there be expected?

[Husayn] Thank you very much indeed for the opportunity to be with you at this very, very important meeting, to attend UNCTAD nine, and we believe in the United Nations, we believe in what it has been doing and accomplishing over the years, and particularly in this very, very important field, addressing the global problems that all of us face in terms of the human dimension and the needs of coming together and resolving these problems that have faced so many us.

I would like to say that, in our part of the world, the problem over so many years has been the uncertainty with every passing day of what the next might bring, the scourge of war, of turbulence, within the region as a whole. We have turned the corner, we have achieved what we always hoped we might fulfill, what we might leave generations to come as our legacy to them, to see from the birthplace of the three great monotheistic religions, the three great Abrahamic religions, to see the people in that region come together and build a future that is worthy of them.

We have turned the corner, and our hopes are high, and with it has come a change in our entire attitude. For now, we are more confident, more hopeful, yet also, as my brother President Mandela has said, we will need time to realize the hopes and dreams of our people. But in regard to integration, and hopefully we will see a comprehensive peace in our region. It is only natural and normal that this should happen.

As you will recall there were many restrictions in the past, many barriers that have been turned down now,

and as a result we find that across the board, in terms of the majority who wants to enjoy peace, and hopefully all of us within our region, our hopes and aspirations, our difficulties, our challenges, our fears are just the same. And there is a wealth of experience and a wealth of goodwill, and there is a great determination to put all this together and to create not only for our region, but for the world, hopefully a better tomorrow.

So, yes, we must move toward regional integration. We have taken several steps towards that effect. We've had two important conferences, one in Morocco and the second in Amman. We will be having a meeting next in Egypt, and Qatar, and throughout the region. But, beyond that, we also look to the rest of the world. And amongst the sources of great joy for me in my current stay in South Africa is to realize that our exploration of possibilities, of working together, joint projects, joint endeavors, are great, and we are just beginning to see what could be done. So the future of our area, hopefully, is a good one. I think peace and stability are essential. I believe democracy is essential and the creation of institutions that ensure continuity. And I believe that in the final analysis all of us have the same hopes, the same dreams, and the same aspirations. Thank you.

[Unidentified questioner] Your majesty, let me come back to the issue of peace in your region in which you played such a decisive role. Surely, unemployment and poverty create conditions in which those who advocate political violence prosper. What actions are you undertaking and what others are necessary to let the poor perceive that the economic opportunities that a definitive negotiated peace would open up for them?

[Husayn] Thank you very much indeed for the opportunity. First of all, I would like to say that poverty, if it is rampant, deprivation are directly related to violence or the possibility of violence. Despair leads to extremist movements and actions. I am finding difficulty because I am speaking of my country. I am also speaking in regard to the region itself. Our hopes are great in terms of the future. In that regard, I would like to also add to what my brother the president of Tanzania has said. The question of a heavy debt on any country makes it almost impossible to seize the opportunity for the progress that conditions of peace and stability can provide. In any event, in my country in the past many, many years, the government had to play more of the role in encouraging the private sector to undertake or to partake in any project because of the uncertainty in which we lived. Now, I believe, with peace and with stability and with hope amongst our people, we have the opportunity to turn over to the private sector through privatization many of the projects that used to be governmental in the past. And also our ambition is to concentrate on mak-

ing our government less cumbersome, more efficient, so that it can meet the hopes and aspirations of our people and work in partnership with all the other elements in Jordan, particularly the private sector in building a better future for our people.

In Jordan, we have concentrated on education. We have concentrated on the human dimension of our existence over many, many years. And therefore, we have talented, able people who just sought the opportunity. It is there now. I hope it will be, therefore, all our region before long. And physically, we need to complement each other in that region, in terms of the resources available, not to compete against each other. And I hope that, as a result, we will be able to work more to achieve this complementarity and to achieve progress in our entire region. But as I have said before, wherever there is poverty and there is need and there is despair, the ground is ripe for extremism. And the battle is there between those who live with hope for a better future and those who seek to destroy hope in man's heart and mind. I believe the overwhelming majority in our region know what our way should be and we are moving towards it with determination. And I hope that we will succeed, again, not as individuals but as people.

There is no substitute to a people working together to the human worth of the individual, to safeguarding pluralism and building on it, to respecting human rights, to democracy, to partaking in shaping the future of the country. I believe all of us know that and all of us are trying our very best, in the case of Jordan, hopefully, to be a source of inspiration, maybe, an example to others. No country in our region has suffered more over the years that have gone past or contributed more to help people who have suffered along [words indistinct]. Well, now let us hope all this is behind us and that the future is a bright one. And ours is a center and has always been historically a center for trade and a crossroads in this world, certainly, in our region, we believe it will be such in terms of the world as a whole and in the times ahead.

I'd like to say that this has been a wonderful experience for me, as I am sure it is for all of us. I think that all of us can learn from each other. And I think that as far as the UNCTAD is concerned and the conference is concerned, I wish it every success in its deliberations. And I hope we approach it, approach the challenge before us, in a spirit of togetherness, to complement each other, to work together. Not to compete, but to come together as closely as we can in the times ahead. To look at each other's problem, to see how we can help each other in any way we can. And also to appeal to those who are ahead of us in this world to share with us their

experience, to be our partners in building and securing a better future for all of our peoples.

I would like to say that it has been a privilege for me, as maybe the eldest in a position of responsibility, to be here in South Africa on this day and to have the privilege of meeting you yesterday, Sir [Mandela], once more in your own country and in your own home, and to join on behalf of the people and Government of Jordan in the celebrations of the second anniversary of Freedom Day.

I believe that what you are achieving here, and what you will achieve beyond this moment in time, is something that affects people everywhere in the world. Pluralism, respect for each other, working together, creating something new, something good in the same way we hope that in our part of the world we might be doing as much as we can towards the same ends and the same goals. And beyond that, as one of my colleagues remarked, it is not today that is important, it is tomorrow. It is people's judgment of us long after we are gone. Let's hope and pray, all of us, that we succeed in fulfilling our duties to the best of our abilities, together with our peoples and together all of us for the better future we seek. Thank you so much.

UNCTAD Conference: Belarusian Delegation Participating in UN Conference

WS2904115896 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 1000 GMT 29 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] A Belarusian delegation is participating in the ninth session of the UN Conference on Trade and Development [UNCTAD] in South Africa. The delegation includes Belarusian Deputy Foreign Minister Valeryy Tsepkala and Viktor Shykh, chief of the international economic relations department at the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations. As a reminder, the UN Conference on Trade and Development was founded on 30 December 1964. One of its most important tasks is devising principles of international trade and economic development. The present conference is the most heavily represented international economic forum, attended by 188 countries. The Belarusian delegation's members will make a report and participate in the discussion of urgent problems connected with promoting and expanding international trade.

UNCTAD Conference: Group of 77 Calls For 'Greater Access to Global Markets'

MB2804201196 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1425 GMT 28 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MIDRAND April 28 SAPA-AFP — The Group of 77 developing countries Sunday

[28 April] called for renewed pressure on the World Trade Organisation (WTO) for greater access to global markets.

The G-77, meeting on the sidelines of the 9th session here of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), told the world body that they were still facing obstacles in their attempts to participate in the new international free trade environment.

G-77 — which actually comprises 132 members — said the conclusion of the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade in 1993 and the establishment of the WTO had boosted the developing world's confidence in the multilateral trading system. However, the group said in a declaration adopted Sunday, this confidence and the WTO's credibility was threatened by unilateral actions from more economically powerful states against some developing countries.

"Environmental and social conditionalities should not constitute new obstacles to market access for developing countries," the document said. "We express our deep concern at the continuing use of coercive economic measures against developing countries through, inter alia, unilateral economic and trade sanctions which are in clear contradiction with international law," it said.

"In this respect, we object to the new attempts aimed at extra territorial application of domestic law, which constitute a flagrant violation of the United Nations Charter and of WTO rules," the group said.

UNCTAD sources said this was a reference to sanctions by the United States against Cuba, Libya and Iraq, all prominent members of G-77. The group, which represents more than two-thirds of the UNCTAD membership, called on the UN body to promote the interests of developing countries at the WTO's Singapore Ministerial Meeting in December.

Among the issues G-77 said UNCTAD should raise with the WTO was the question of how developing countries could benefit from free trade promoting economic growth and sustainable development by further liberalizing areas of trade relevant to group-member countries.

"We call for a renewed political commitment to free trade and agree that the Uruguay agreements should be fully implemented in letter and spirit," it said. "The international community should promote concrete policies, measures and actions to achieve the objectives of sustained growth and sustainable development."

More than 3,000 delegates from 188 countries are attending the two-week conference that began Saturday at the Gallagher Estates complex in Midrand, halfway between Johannesburg and Pretoria.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

FBIS-AFR-96-083
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The central issue of the session is defining a future role for UNCTAD — a Cold War creation trying to adapt to an era of global free trade — alongside the WTO.

UNCTAD Conference: Trade Groups Launch Assistance Program for Africa

*MB2604175396 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1726 GMT 26 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] JOHANNESBURG April 26 SAPA — Three international trade organisations on Friday [26 April] announced the first phase of a combined technical assistance programme for African countries.

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and the International Trade Centre (ITC) have joined in a programme to integrate the least developed countries of Africa into world trade.

The announcement was made in Midrand [Republic of South Africa] by the heads of the agencies on the eve of the ninth sitting of UNCTAD, opening in Midrand on Saturday. The assistance programme will initially be targeted at eight countries: Benin, Burkino Faso, Tanzania, Uganda, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya and Tunisia. It is aimed at expanding and diversifying their trade, and integrating them with the multilateral trading system. The plan will emphasise human development and institutional capacity building, as well as the strengthening of export capabilities.

UNCTAD secretary-general Rubens Ricupero told reporters the programme was an illustration of the three

agencies' willingness to take action to improve conditions in the least developed countries. He said of the [words indistinct] described as "least developed", 33 were African nations.

The programme would not be an aid package, but rather a practical exercise in educating the local private and public export-related sectors on business development and trade-policy options, Ricupero said.

Local institutions would receive in-depth training in institution building and information enhancement. UNCTAD would be responsible for providing the countries with policy guidance, while the ITC would liaise with the private sector on how to deal with the open market. The WTO would provide training in trade laws to contribute to a better understanding of WTO rules.

WTO director-general Renato Ruggiero said the plan was "not an aid policy but an integral part of an ongoing development policy". It would act as a catalyst for further development and should provide "the knowledge of how to profit, of how to improve their capabilities". He said once the governments had opened up their markets and the countries had the ability to trade, investment would increase.

The first phase of the programme was estimated to cost in the region of US\$1 million.

UNCTAD IX, expected to attract about 3,000 delegates from its 188 member states, ends on May 11. The theme of the conference is the acceleration of economic growth and development, particularly in developing countries.

Burundi

Burundi: 10 Family Members Killed in Bujumbura 27 Apr

EA2904122096 Bujumbura ABP in French
0928 GMT 29 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Bujumbura, 29 Apr — Men wearing army uniforms attacked a family residing in Buyenzi, Bujumbura during the night of 27 April, killing over 10 of its members with knives. an ABP journalist has reported. A survivor of the attack said: "Men wearing military uniforms and armed with machetes and pistols attacked us around 0100, killing over 10 people in the compound. The attackers left with some of the dead after shooting into the air with a pistol." The survivor added that after doing their dirty work, the aggressors left without encountering any resistance.

Burundi: President Speaks on Measures To Combat Violence

EA2704133996 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale
du Burundi Radio in French 1805 GMT 25 Apr 96

[Speech by Burundian President Sylvestre Ntibantunganya on 25 April; place not given — recorded]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [passage omitted] Burundians of all ethnic origins must now stand together and say no to criminals. All Burundians must save Burundi. [Words indistinct] peace for these people, it is never too late. All the forces in favor of peace and all the resources of hope must be involved in the fight against the enemy. [passage omitted]

Since October 1993, Burundian political figures have accused one another of being responsible for a genocide organized and perpetrated against people who are politically or ethnically close to them. Even more serious, those who signed the government convention too [words indistinct] to an international judicial inquiry mission to investigate the 21 October 1993 putsch, what political partners agreed to call genocide, and all the various politically-related crimes committed since October 1993 [words indistinct].

It is time for the Burundian political community to open a debate on this issue. I call on the United Nations to speed up the proceedings of the said mission, so that truth can be established and the relevant subsequent measures taken.

But already the Burundi Government, on my initiative, has just decided to set up a national human rights commission whose mission, among other things, [words indistinct] — whenever necessary — to any [word indistinct] or factor likely to lead to mass and selective violations of individual rights, notably the right to life.

All precautions will be taken to make sure that such a commission is as independent as possible from the state and immune from any other form of pressure. [passage omitted]

The threat to the unity of the Burundian people does not come from the people, but from those who are fighting over power. Some of them want to acquire it totally and exclusively, while others want to monopolize it through the same mechanisms. It is thus clear that a lasting peace in Burundi first requires a major reform of the state, of its institutions and of other state bodies like the defense and security forces, the judiciary, and the administrative apparatus. Burundians, in their diversity, now need a state that is reliable and reassures everyone; a state that reunites instead of divides; a state that strengthens the nation instead of weakening it. [passage omitted]

After several consultations, the following urgent measures have been decided:

First, at the military level, an appreciable increase in the number of troops has just been decided.

The fight we are waging requires appropriate military responses, most importantly providing our defense and security forces with enough human resources to block the way of the enemy which targets the most vulnerable groups. In a few months' time, these new troops will come to serve the nation and reinforce their elders in the noble duty of defending the country and our fellow citizens as a whole. Material and technical resources will also be reinforced to allow our security and defense forces to carry out their mission properly. [passage omitted]

In order to strengthen the order that will be restored thanks to the necessary emergency measures, a global plan of action has been decided on matters related to the development of our defense and security forces.

First, a national police structure properly trained and sufficiently equipped will be established and deployed to reach all the communes of the country. The proposed national police will be a security force of a civilian nature with which the residents of the country's various communes can identify themselves.

Second, the gendarmerie will be geared to act as an intervention force wherever and whenever the national police finds itself overburdened. [passage omitted]

The police and gendarmerie will be assigned to work daily with the population to protect the people from all sorts of crimes. But until then, the government is now finalizing all the mechanisms needed for better protecting the civilian population, obviously with that population's contribution.

These last few days, some people have been calling for youths to be mobilized so that they can be trained to join certain self-defense organizations. Some of these youths are tempted to accept this and therefore start organizing themselves for that purpose. But I would like to tell them that the government, as you have just heard, is going to take all the necessary military measures for better protection of the population in a compellingly global manner. So I urge these youths — especially students — who are being approached by some quarters to continue with their studies, to remain united and show solidarity in their campuses and school institutions. [passage omitted]

Second measure: territorial administration will be given dynamism and will be reinforced. [passage omitted]

Third measure: we have decided to reinforce the structure and operations of the judiciary. We are aware that justice is a strong pillar of peace, stability, and social order. [passage omitted] The judiciary will have to be strengthened through an increase in staff and a decentralization of the courts and tribunals so that justice comes closer to those under trial.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, in order to complete successfully the reorganization and modernization of the defense and security bodies, the strengthening of the structure and operations of the judiciary, the efforts aimed at giving a new impulse to the territorial administration apparatus, Burundi will need the international community's technical and financial support. The Burundian people want to achieve peace, and we call on our partners to back our peace efforts.

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, the government's efforts to restore peace and security in the country also include taking advantage of any diplomatic opportunity both inside and outside the country to inform the international community on the political and diplomatic aspects of our crisis. I had the opportunity to meet my counterparts from other countries. I took part in many international gatherings. During all these occasions, I had the opportunity to brief my interlocutors on the real aspects of the Burundian crisis. The National Assembly speaker, the prime minister, and many other government members do the same thing whenever they carry out missions abroad. On these occasions, we especially stress the need for the international community to take vigorous action with a view to helping our country neutralize and contain armed groups' infiltrations from neighboring countries. We also stress the need for more involvement by the international community in identifying arms trafficking networks in our sub-region with a view to dismantling them for the sake of peace and security in this great lakes region.

Neither should anyone forget that we have always insisted on calling for the international community's contribution in helping us neutralize the clandestine and inflammatory radio station called Radio Democracy. All these initiatives are still going on and we will never tire of pursuing them until we succeed.

I take this occasion to encourage the former president of the sister Republic of Tanzania, Mwalimu Julius Nyerere, who agreed to carry out the very difficult task given to him by the international community of mediating the Burundians' search for their own solutions to the serious crisis now affecting the country. [passage omitted]

On this occasion, I would also like to turn to the heads of state and governments of the Great Lakes countries and to international organizations like the United Nations, the OAU, and the EU, and express a wish. Our region has experienced one of the most despicable genocides of the current late 20th century. Everyone knows the seriousness of the consequences for our region of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda. The same threat is hanging over our country, unless strong measures are taken inside Burundi and its immediate surroundings.

At this juncture, I call for efforts to explore and implement a regional pact for non-aggression and collective security, and a regional human rights and genocide prevention watchdog structure. [passage omitted]

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen. This is a serious moment. The Burundian state must be strengthened to confront the challenges our country is experiencing. Confrontation must be replaced by tolerance, reconciliation, and genuine collaboration. [passage omitted]

Rwanda

Rwanda: UN Says Government Troops Killed 38 Villagers

LD2804172396 Paris Radio France International in French 1230 GMT 28 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] The United Nations says that at least 38 inhabitants of the village of Marumba in northeastern Rwanda were killed by soldiers of the government army two weeks ago. The operation was carried out by soldiers in reprisal for the death of one of their own, according to Ian Martin, head of the UN observer team, who stressed that so far no bodies have been found on the spot in the village.

Kenya

Kenya: Government Issues Statement on Rwandan Allegations

EA2704184796 *Nairobi KBC Television Network in English 1800 GMT 26 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The following is a government statement: It will be recalled on the night of 26th February 1996, an assassination attempt was made on the life of a Rwandese national and former minister in the Rwandese Government, Mr. Seth Sendashonga. Those arrested at the scene of the crime, and therefore the prime suspects, included a Rwandese diplomat in their Nairobi Embassy, Mr. Francis Mugabo. In accordance with the Vienna conventions on diplomatic immunities, the Government of Kenya asked the Government of Rwanda to waive diplomatic immunity on the suspect so that prosecution proceedings in our open courts could commence. In response the Government of the Republic of Rwanda refused to grant the request of waiver of immunity. Instead the Rwandese Government requested the Government of Kenya to release the suspect to the mission or send him to Rwanda.

After protracted negotiations with Rwandese authorities through diplomatic channels, it became clear that the waiver of diplomatic immunity would not be granted. It is at this point that [the] Kenya Government gave [the] Rwandese Government the option of either waiving the immunity or closing the embassy in Nairobi. The Government of Kenya took the decision to close the embassy on 9th April this year and informed the Government of Rwanda of this decision.

The Government of Rwanda requested that the closure be deferred to enable the two countries to pursue negotiations on the matter. They then notified the Kenya Government of [the] intention to send an envoy to discuss the issue in Nairobi. In the process of making arrangements for the envoy to come to Kenya, the Government of Rwanda goes to press to accuse Kenya of violating the Vienna convention governing diplomatic relations among other things.

The Government of Kenya takes great exception to the statement of the Government of Rwanda of 24th March this year which makes baseless and unfounded accusations against the Government of Kenya. The Government of Kenya takes this opportunity to reiterate once more that it has no interest in Rwandese matters except in helping to ease any difficulties in Rwanda. We do not harbor any criminals in this country knowingly, be they diplomats or other. The Government of Rwanda should waive diplomatic immunity so that Mr. Mugabo can be taken to court for justice to be seen to be done.

The Government of Rwanda is free to send a lawyer to represent Mugabo in an open court.

Somalia

Somalia: Demonstration Held Protesting Attack on Mogadishu Mosque

EA2804191396 *(Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of Somali Pacification in Somali 1630 GMT 28 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] A huge demonstration was held today in Mogadishu in protest at an attack on the grand Islamic Congregation Mosque by [Mohammad Farah] Aidid's faction in which a number of religious leaders attending the 'Idd ul-Adha prayers were killed and their property looted.

The demonstration was held on the morning after 'Idd ul-Adha prayers in other mosques and was composed of religious leaders and ordinary people.

The demonstrators, showing extreme anger over the attack, carried placards with slogans such as "We do not accept enemies of Islam", "We will not tolerate attacks against Islam" and Koranic verses critical of the faction's actions against praying religious leaders.

Uganda

Uganda: Museveni Warns of Retaliation to Sudanese Shelling

EA2804150096 *Kampala THE NEW VISION in English 28 Apr 96 p1*

[Unattributed report: "Museveni Vows To Shell Sudan"]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] President Yoweri Museveni, running for another term, on Friday [26 April] told a rally in Koboko town that if Sudan continues to shell Uganda's territory, Uganda will retaliate, reports Emmy Allio in Koboko, Arua [northwestern Uganda].

"And if Sudan sends traitors like Juma Oris [West Nile Bank Front] rebels we shall continue to crash them [as published] without mercy like we did in Okolo and Nyai," Museveni warned. Museveni said the Sudanese Arab rulers are racists like the former white rulers in South Africa, because they have been oppressing blacks in southern Sudan for decades.

The candidate told the big cheering crowd that there was a need for the oppressed blacks in southern Sudanese [as published] to be liberated.

The president, however, blamed many African leaders who have not declared their positions on the southern Sudanese matter. He said many African leaders feel that

the Arabs should understand and settle the matter within Sudan.

Last week the army and civilians killed 32 Oris rebels, and on Thursday [25 April] the army killed 54 Oris rebels in Nyai areas. A lot of arms and over 30 rebels captured [sentence as published]. The rebels have since fled to Zaire and Sudan.

On the allegations that Uganda supports the southern Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA), Museveni denied it, adding that Uganda had in the early 1990s allowed a contingent of Sudanese military to come to monitor Uganda/Sudan border to find out as to whether Uganda actually supports SPLA.

"But these Arabs, instead of stationing themselves in Oraba, Kerwa and the road to Kajokeji, they stationed themselves in Arua town and began to booze contrary to Sharia [Islamic] law," he told the cheering crowd that continued to shout "no change". [passage omitted]

Uganda: Rebels Kill 5 Sudanese Refugees, Burn Down Hospital

AB2604181896 Paris AFP in French
1707 GMT 17 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Kampala, 26 Apr (AFP) — A rebel group killed five Sudanese refugees in northern Uganda and burned down a hospital run by the Dutch Medecins Sans Frontieres [MSF, Doctors Without Borders], a spokesman of the MSF announced today in Kampala.

Earlier reports talk of 14 killed in this attack carried out on 24 April by the West Nile Bank Front. [passage omitted]

Uganda: UPDF Dismisses LRA Cease-Fire

EA2604153696 Kampala THE NEW VISION
in English 26 Apr 96

[Report by John Kakande and Tolit Olwar: "Operations Against Kony To Continue, Says Brigadier Mugume"]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] The Uganda People's Defense Force [UPDF] military operations against the

Kony rebels will continue in spite of reports that they intend to observe a ceasefire starting midnight tonight.

The chief of combat operations Brigadier Joram Mugume told The New Vision yesterday that the UPDF had not agreed to any ceasefire with the Joseph Kony Lord's Resistance Army [LRA].

"We have not negotiated any ceasefire with them, so where does it come from?" Mugume asked, adding: "Military operations against the rebels will continue." [passage omitted]

Uganda: UPDF Kills 54 Juma Oris Rebels in Clash

EA2604171296 Kampala THE NEW VISION
in English 26 Apr 96 p 1

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Fifty-four rebels led by Juma Oris [West Nile Bank Front] were yesterday killed by the UPDF in a battle fought at Nyai in Lobule division, Koboko district along the shores of river Kochi [in northwest Uganda]. Four others were captured.

According to Lieutenant Colonel James Kazini, the fierce battle with about 500 rebels claimed three UPDF soldiers and four were wounded. He said this was the second group of the Oris rebels which entered Uganda on Wednesday night [24 April].

The group, which was commanded by Ali Musa, had joined their counterparts numbering about 100 in Lodonga under the command of Capt. Ali. Among those captured was Lieutenant Dudu who revealed that the rebels had plans to overrun Uganda and later attack Rwanda and Tanzania. [passage omitted]

Kazini said he was expecting more attacks from the rebels since most of them had retreated to the Sudan. [passage omitted]

South Africa: Judge Orders Extradition Hearing for Woman Wanted by U.S.

MB2704191796 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network in English 0500 GMT 27 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] A Johannesburg magistrate has ordered a date for the extradition hearing of a South African woman accused of conspiring to kill an American politician. Magistrate Roy le Roux said the date ordered would be announced on Monday [29 April]. The woman, Ms. Ann Phyllis McCarthy Janks, is accused of having conspired to murder a district attorney in Oregon in 1985. The U.S. Justice Department wants her to stand trial in the United States. Ms. Janks has appealed to have her case heard in the Constitutional Court.

South Africa: Israeli Embassy Denies Protest About Hizballah Bases

MB2904114396 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1048 GMT 29 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Pretoria April 29 SAPA — The Israeli embassy in Pretoria on Monday [29 April] denied an international news agency report that the Israeli Government had officially protested to the South African Government about alleged Hizballah activities in South Africa.

A spokeswoman said the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem was preparing a statement on the matter. A report from Jerusalem earlier on Monday said Israel had protested to South Africa and Nigeria about alleged Hizballah bases in their countries. Hizballah had five bases in South Africa and one in Nigeria, Israeli radio reported.

South African Department of Foreign Affairs spokeswoman Clara Kiesewetter said South African ambassador to Israel Malcolm Ferguson had, at his own request, met senior Israeli foreign affairs officials in Tel Aviv about the media reports. "He is expected to report to the department during the day," she said in Pretoria.

South Africa: Muslim Leader Denies Presence of Hizballah Camps in Country

MB2904143496 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network in English 1400 GMT 29 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Muslim Judicial Council [MJC] says it's unaware of any bases of Hizballah in South Africa. MJC President [Nazim Mohammed] told our political team that he was unaware of events surrounding speculation that Hizballah might have bases in this country. He said his organization was sticking to their earlier statements condemning what he called the genocide in Lebanon. Mr. [Mohammed] said the MJC

condemned the attack in the strongest terms, and said that what Israel had done was wrong.

South Africa: Full Diplomatic Relations Established With Yugoslavia

MB2704175196 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network in English 1600 GMT 27 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The rump Yugoslavia and South Africa have established full diplomatic relations. Through an exchange of notes Belgrade's interest section in Pretoria, which opened in 1992, has become a full embassy. The foreign ministry in Belgrade says diplomatic relations will contribute to the development of mutually beneficial cooperation and promote peace, stability, and progress. The Federal Yugoslav Republic was proclaimed four years ago, less than a year after the former Yugoslavia fell apart. It comprises Serbia and Montenegro.

South African Press Review for 26 Apr

MB2604140896

[FBIS Report]

SOWETAN

Government 'Shillyshallying' on Exchange Controls — Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 26 April in a page-14 editorial "cannot help but feel that, by increasing the price of petrol, the Government is acting in the panic-stricken fashion of increasing the dose of medicine when the disease seems to be getting worse." "In such situations the patient is likely to break out in other ailments, one of which is a threat from the taxi industry that it might be forced to take protective action against the hike." SOWETAN assumes the gasoline price hike is "economic" and the government "must act with courage and take a stand, particularly with regard to exchange controls." The "general shillyshallying is unhelpful." SOWETAN is "not unmindful of the fact that Trevor Manuel has to get his act together before he makes a move. Unfortunately, it is his job to get us out of the jam, for we will not accept hikes in important products that affect the lives of all people and hit the poor the hardest."

MAIL & GUARDIAN

COSATU Participation in Constitution-Writing — Johannesburg MAIL & GUARDIAN in English for 26 Apr-2 May in a page-26 editorial comments on the Constitutional Assembly, CA, call for people to involve themselves in the writing of the country's constitution, saying that now that the Congress of South African Trade Unions, COSATU, "is taking the CA at

its word on public participation, and threatening a strike on Tuesday [30 April] in pursuit of its goals in the new Constitution" it has prompted "dire warnings" from the South African Chamber of Business. "You cannot ask people to participate and then whinge when they do. Nor can you, in a healthy democracy, limit their input to bits of paper." The way to avoid a strike "is not to suggest that COSATU should discourage its members from participating in the Constitution-making process. [Words indistinct] appropriate way is to get into a negotiating chamber and find a solution."

NEW NATION

Government 'Silence' on Buthelezi's Threat of War — Inkatha Chief Buthelezi's threat of war if he is "brought to justice" simply adds to the "culture of impunity" which took hold in KwaZulu/Natal and is "one of the primary reasons for the high levels of political violence there," notes a page-10 editorial in Johannesburg **NEW NATION** in English on 26 April. "The unambiguous signal sent out by government's silence on Buthelezi's warning is that the Cabinet minister remains above the law, whatever the allegations."

BUSINESS DAY

European Commission Blocks Platinum Merger — Johannesburg **BUSINESS DAY** in English on 26 April in a page-10 editorial believes the European Commission, EC, has blocked the merger of Impala and Lonrho's Western Platinum "for the wrong reasons." Anglo American has been cast as a problem because of its 29.5 percent effective interest in Lonrho. This had led to the merger being blocked because of "the convoluted idea that Anglo might manage to dominate the world's platinum market." **BUSINESS DAY** says no single producer can hold the market to ransom, "and that would be the case even if all the South African platinum mines were to merge into one corporate whole." "The lesson for South Africa's corporate sector is that any dealings with Europe need to be structured so that they do not attract the attention of European bureaucrats — whose brief is not to facilitate this country's economic development."

ANC Tied to COSATU Apron Strings — Thami Mazwai writes in an article on the same page on the ANC's backing for the COSATU-called strike, saying the ANC "seems to have forgotten it is the party in power," and "cannot endorse mass action as it did when it was still operating from the bush." "COSATU has to realise that we cannot tolerate bad faith — talk in the Constitutional Assembly but intimidate in the streets — in the current and final touches to the constitutional negotiations." Mazwai concludes: "The ANC does not

inspire much confidence if it will be forever tied to the apron strings of COSATU. Did we make a mistake in electing it to power? Should we not just have elected COSATU once and for all instead of electing it to power via the ANC?"

South African Press Review for 27 Apr

MB2704201396

[FBIS Report]

THE CITIZEN

ANC Should Reject Strike — "We hope the ANC will come to its senses and, instead of backing COSATU's [Congress of South African Trade Unions] call for a nationwide strike on Tuesday [30 April], will persuade it ally to drop the idea," says the 25 April editorial on page 6 of Johannesburg **THE CITIZEN** in English. "By supporting COSATU's strike call, the ANC is making a mockery of the two years of patient negotiation in the Constitutional Assembly that led to the present draft constitution. Clearly the lock-out clause — and the property clause, which COSATU disputes as well — are not last-minute surprises. And to make these a make-or-break issue, a cause for a 24-hour nationwide strike, is ridiculous." The editorial concludes: "If it goes on with the strike, both the ANC and COSATU will have to bear responsibility for any further fall in the rand as well as any loss of investor confidence."

THE SATURDAY STAR

'Harsh Realities' of Freedom — "Let's Celebrate!" Freedom Day exclaims a Johannesburg **SATURDAY STAR** page-10 editorial on 27 April, "two long, hard years since all South Africans gained the right to vote for the political leaders of their choice." Few could deny the obvious benefits most "downtrodden citizens" have gained since the abolishing of apartheid — free medical care, access to education, housing, electricity and clean running water. Even despite "its controversy at its conception, the Truth Commission is also starting to show its value as a nation-builder." However, the editorial states, "for the social and political transformation to be taken to its logical conclusion, the Government will have to take firm steps on several fronts." The "harsh realities" of political violence and rampant crime are forcing people to shelter behind electric fences and this is scaring away "much-needed international investors." "Reducing crime and political violence may lead to increased stability in our markets and encourage investors, who will provide the capital and skills to really get our economy moving." Now "that will be reason indeed to celebrate."

South African Press Review for 28 Apr

MB2804201496

[FBIS Report]

SUNDAY TIMES

Investors Want Substance, Not Style — "So far the emphasis has been on style: President Nelson Mandela's personal style of reconciliation," says a Johannesburg **SUNDAY TIMES** page-22 editorial in English on 28 April. However, the weakness of the rand and "the inability of the government to stem its decline, despite all Mr. Mandela's assurances, suggest, however that the hard-nosed investor community may have become weary of style and is concerned about the lack of substance". Investors want "certainty" that the country will "protect their investments, allow them to make fair profits, encourage competitiveness, instill an ethic of productivity in its citizens and be even-handed in balancing the rights of workers and owners," the editorial suggests. "It is after all, not style that attracts investors. It is certainty." A Province Out of Control — A second editorial on the same page says the "brutal attack by a group of armed men on the wife and family of King Goodwill Zwelithini on Thursday [25 April] snaps into focus the problem of KwaZulu/Natal." The struggle for power and the politicians in the province "through action or inaction" have made things get out of control. Even Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi suggested that he should "stand above the law for fear of the violence his followers can wreak." This is an "appalling proposition". This province of "once-limitless potential is stumbling towards decay".

South African Press Review for 29 Apr

MB2904134296

[FBIS Report]

THE STAR

Government in 'Economic Trance' — "The rise in interest rates announced by Chris Stals, the Reserve Bank governor, late on Friday [26 April] is an admission of defeat for a government that has lost its way in economic policy," declares the page-1 editorial by Editor Peter Bruce in Johannesburg **THE STAR's BUSINESS REPORT** supplement in English on 29 April. The collapse of the rand "tells us that, at the moment, the markets have no confidence in our

economic policies and it is economic policy that needs to change." The government "cannot sell off state-owned assets that make losses and drain money from its own coffers. It will not draw a line between itself and the unions and it cannot communicate effectively with big business. In short, the government is in an economic trance." Bruce also notes that by giving the strike called by the Congress of South African Trade Unions, COSATU, "public and warm support" the ANC "made a fantastic blunder." "The ANC has responsibilities way beyond the loyalties it built up in the struggle." Only "economic leadership" will stop the rand from falling further, and this job "has to fall to Thabo Mbeki, the deputy president." "But while he keeps his head down and politicks within his party the impression lingers that he is unsure of himself, worried that an attempt to stand up and lead might threaten all his hopes."

SOWETAN

'Inefficient' Policing in KwaZulu/Natal — The attack on Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini's family has illustrated "the gravity of the violence that is tearing KwaZulu/Natal apart," declares Johannesburg **SOWETAN** in English on 29 April in a page-10 editorial. The attack on Zwelithini's family "has exposed the laid-back and inefficient way in which police in KwaZulu/Natal deal with violence in general." Therefore, **SOWETAN** "cannot but agree with African National Congress leaders who have called for senior police officers in the province to be dismissed. We cannot have a police force that is not proactive. A reactive police force is too expensive for the country's liking."

BUSINESS DAY

Economic Confidence 'Brittle' — The page-14 editorial in Johannesburg **BUSINESS DAY** in English on 29 April comments on the current devaluation of the rand, saying: "So brittle is foreign (and, it seems, local) confidence that any whiff of 'negative' rumour, or fact, has further rattled the currency and capital markets. 'Positive' signals have made little or no impact." Although "monetary and fiscal discipline" can bring the rand back to a level more in line with economic fundamentals, "all players — members of government, business, organised labour — must become more sensitive of the possible consequences of their words and actions." "There will be a cost, every time."

Angola

Angola: Mandela Donates 1.7 Million Rands for Peace Process

MB2604201596 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 26 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali has received more than 1.7 million rands, about \$450,000, from South African President Nelson Mandela to support the Angolan peace process. At the end of the 30-minute audience, Mandela said he examined the Angolan peace process with the UN secretary general. [passage omitted]

Angola: Savimbi Promises U.S. Envoy 30,000 Men To Be Confined by 8 May

MB2504205396 Luanda TPA Television Network in Portuguese 1930 GMT 25 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Jonas Savimbi, National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] leader, promised today that 30,000 UNITA soldiers will be quartered by 8 May. He made the promise to (Paul Hare), U.S. President Bill Clinton's special envoy, who visited Andulo, Bie Province, today. [passage omitted]

Angola: UNITA Reports 25,360 Soldiers Registered in Assembly Areas

MB2604094196 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 26 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] The National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] has quartered more than 25,000 soldiers, and the exercise continues at a good pace despite problems encountered in the assembly areas. The following are the latest numbers of soldiers registered in the first [word indistinct] as reported by the General Staff of the UNITA Military Forces in Bailundo:

First Phase:

Vila Nova — 5,007 soldiers and 2,049 families
Londumbali — 5,212 soldiers and 3,602 families
Negage — 5,000 soldiers and 3,603 families
Quibaxe — 2,214 soldiers and 659 families

Second Phase:

Ngove — 5,370 soldiers and 2,459 families
Quibala — 3,043 and 15 families
Ntucu — 803 soldiers and 749 others in transit camps
Catala — 215 soldiers with hundreds of others in transit camps

Total number of soldiers registered in the first phase — 17,433

Total number of families registered in the first phase — 9,272

Total number of soldiers registered in the second phase — 7,216

Total number of families registered in the second phase — 2,474

Total number of soldiers in transit camps — 2,496

Total number of soldiers registered in both phases — 25,360

Total number of families registered in both phases — 8,746

[figures as heard]

Angola: UNITA Reports FAA Troops Moving in Northern Region

MB2504141996 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 1200 GMT 25 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] The Angolan Armed Forces [FAA] have been seen moving men and war materiel in the northern region. Specifically, those forces are moving from N'dalatando, in Cuanza Norte Province; Ambriz, in Zaire Province; and Uige, in Uige province.

This was reported yesterday by Brigadier Longfellow, of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] Northern Region Military Command.

Yesterday, just as U.S. special envoy (Paul Hart) and Brigadier (Sucena) visited the Negage assembly area, a FAA regiment was moving from Lucala-1 and deployed in the Cantonera area on the N'dalatando-Negage route.

Felix Miranda, Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel correspondent in the area, reports that the FAA's return to the nearest barracks is still in the future. FAA troops have extended their defensive cordon 25 km outside the city, to the (Luquiche) and (Tumba-Loje) areas, where large numbers of well-equipped troops have assembled.

In Cuanza Norte, Colonel (Zilote) leads the 600-man Northeastern Group, which has moved from Maria Teresa to Lucala-1, in Zaire Province's Soyo District. The FAA troops and the Rapid Intervention Police are also many kilometers away from the city and its barracks. UNITA relayed all these concerns to (Paul Hart) yesterday. The U.S. official promised to take them up with the UN Angola Verification Mission-3.

Angola: UNITA Radio—FAA Holds Unavem-3 Vehicle, Occupants

MB2704141996 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 27 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Felix Miranda, Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel [Vorgan] correspondent

in Uige Province, reported yesterday that the Angolan Armed Forces [FAA] continue to mass forces in the area of (Pumba-Loje), along the Uige-Quitexe road, in Uige Province.

Quoting National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] Northern Military Region General Staff sources, the Vorgan correspondent reports that a UN Angola Verification Mission-3 [Unavem-3] vehicle which went to the area to assess the seriousness of the situation, was detained by the FAA (?until) 1200 that day. In addition, the FAA forces accused the Unavem of spying for UNITA.

The vehicle and its occupants were released some time later. The case is now being handled by the Unavem-3 Regional Command in the city of Uige.

Angola: UNITA Radio Reports FAA Attacks in Various Regions

MB2704141796 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 1200 GMT 27 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Despite some progress on the diplomatic front, the Angolan Armed Forces [FAA] continue to cause insecurity in National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA]-controlled areas. In the Eastern Region at 1800 on 21 April, an FAA platoon attacked the areas of Luchita and (Wandeliko), wounding three citizens.

An FAA column left the city of Malanje on 11 April for the area of Chimbamba. The column included 15 [name indistinct] vehicles, five BMP 2s, three BM-21s, and five war tanks.

The FAA troops also carried out bandit operations in the area of Cruzeiro in the Central Region on 20, 21, and 22 April. They attacked, beat up, raped, and robbed defenseless people in the area.

In Huambo and Vila Flor, the FAA troops are looting the people's corn.

An FAA unit moving in from Quilengues attacked a UNITA military unit in the Southern Region at 1300 on 22 April. The result was five people killed, eight wounded, and five missing. The UNITA unit was 45 km from the capital of Quilengues District.

This is the scenario of cease-fire violations carried out by the government forces, which continue to attack the people despite the fact that we are supposed to be at peace.

Angola: FAA Troops Reportedly Attacking Former UNITA Positions

MB2804170896 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 28 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] While National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] troops are leaving for the confinement areas, the Angolan Armed Forces [FAA] continue to attack positions left by UNITA troops.

Huila Province: FAA forces attacked (Chiluangola), 17 km from Negola, as well as Cambange, N'jola, and Quilengues, killing seven people including two UNITA policemen, wounding 19 civilians, and kidnapping one policeman. In these attacks, FAA forces used units which range from platoons to companies. On 19 April, the 13th FAA Regiment stationed in Quilengues shelled civilian targets using a B-30 cannon. A total of 173 heads of cattle were stolen during these attacks.

Cuanza Norte Province: The 45th Infantry Regiment began an offensive on 23 April and reached (Cantoeira) along the road to (Sabecaju), on 24 April.

In Moxico Province: FAA units coming from (Lumbico) looted people's goods in Samuala and (Sabanite) on 24 April.

Mozambique

Mozambique: Muslim Leader Verbally Attacks Catholics, Renamo

MB2904142396 Maputo Radio Maputo in English 1100 GMT 29 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Mozambique's (?Muslim) community chairman Abdul Aziz Latif yesterday issued a virulent attack on the Roman Catholic Church because of its opposition to the parliamentary deal that would make the two main Muslim sacred dates public holidays.

Speaking on the occasion of one of these dates, Id ul Fitr, celebrated yesterday all over the country, Mr. Latif declared that in rejecting the right of Muslims to celebrate their day with all the Mozambican people, the Catholic Church demonstrates its hypocrisy and dishonesty in relation to the other religions in the country. He also said that the Catholics always prided on their supremacy, using the state and the institutions of the state for their own benefit [as published].

Mr. Latif [words indistinct] calls of the role of Catholicism as the official religion of the Portuguese colonial regime and said that it was with a [word indistinct] money that the Catholic Church, supported by the general budget of the colonial puppet state built churches,

schools, and (?hospitals), institutions which they are now demanding back.

Mr. Latif said the Catholic Church has demanded back church buildings nationalized shortly after Mozambique's independence, but has never demanded the return of property that had belonged to other religions. He accused the Catholics of not defending the Mozambican people as a whole, but just the church to which they belong.

The message of the Mozambique's [words indistinct] community chairman urged President Chissano to promulgate the bill and order its publication in order to (?dispense) justice for the Muslims.

Mr. Latif's message also attacked Mozambique's biggest opposition parliamentary, Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance], which spoke against the bill in parliamentary debate in March. It said that Renamo and its leader, Afonso Dhlakama, always spoke about injustice toward the Muslims, but when the moment of truth arrived, Renamo members distanced themselves from the Islamic cause.

The bill will receive a final vote next week in the Mozambican Parliament. If it is (?approved) it will then go to President Joaquim Chissano, who has the power to veto it.

Mozambique: Chissano Urges Muslims, Catholics To Avoid Conflict

*MB2904142296 Maputo Radio Maputo in English
1100 GMT 29 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Mozambique's president, Joaquim Chissano, said yesterday that it was important that the churches respect the freedom of (?its) citizens in order to avoid religious conflicts in the country. Speaking at a ceremony held in the northern Mozambican province of Nampula, on the occasion of Id ul Fitr, President Chissano said that both the Quran and the Bible recommended respect for the authorities and laws of each country.

He also said that all religions should therefore respect the authorities of the country. The head of state has been on a working visit to Nampula Province since last week. [passage omitted]

Mozambique: Minister Addresses Paris Consultative Group

*MB2604155696 Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese
18 Apr 96 pp 2,3*

[Paper presented by Mozambique Finance Minister Tomas Salomao at the Paris Consultative Group meeting on 17 April: "Socioeconomic Development"]

[FBIS Translated Text] I would like to begin by hailing Your Excellencies and express the Mozambican people's gratitude for the continual assistance received from the international community to the country's process of democratization and socioeconomic development.

At last year's meeting, the government had pledged to implement reforms which would serve as a basis for socioeconomic development. I will therefore brief you on the most important actions that were implemented and their outcome.

The document presented by the government to this Consultative Group was termed "Steps for Socioeconomic Development," precisely because we are aware that although we made some progress, there is still much to be done, taking into account that at the onset Mozambique is one of the poorest countries of the world.

Although activities carried out in 1995 are a modest contribution toward real development, they show that the government is clearly committed to continuing with the necessary reforms.

I would like to point out that one of the main concerns of the government in 1995 was to consolidate democracy and guarantee efficient running of the democratic institutions. The state budget was one of the instruments designed to achieve that goal.

In fact, after one year, the Assembly of the Republic functions normally as a legislative and national sovereignty organ made up of representatives of different parties democratically elected. The political parties are functioning freely, expressing their views on all public issues. The government, in its sound exercise of democracy, was on several occasions called to the Assembly of the Republic to explain its programs.

It will be noted that this situation is different from that of 1992 when the first steps toward the peace accords were taken.

Regarding the budget, despite reduction of expenses, the disbursement of funds was rigorously implemented both for the Assembly of the Republic and political parties which were not affected by the reductions.

The reintegration of demobilized soldiers into society is still a central point for Mozambique's social stability. Subsidies for 1995 were all paid to the 16,300 demobilized and war-crippled soldiers. Those with more than 10 years in the armed forces were registered as state pensioners, within the framework of the peace accord. Moreover, about 7,500 demobilized soldiers were trained in technical courses and received working utensils.

The government's goal in 1995 was also to reinforce the rule of law by strengthening the judicial system and improving the security of the citizens and their property.

In fact, in this and other related fields we gave the first step toward improving the running of the institutions, providing them with more resources so as to enable them to run properly. Funds allocated to the judicial system increased by 60 percent and to the police by 10 percent. The outcome of this was an improved security atmosphere from the north to the south of Mozambique, as people and goods move in a climate of peace. The increased funds also contributed toward the expansion of the judicial system at district level, which is essential to prepare conditions for the decentralization of powers.

The undertakings in the military field were not totally fulfilled due to lack of resources. Only 83 percent of the planned amounts was used and this represents a reduction of 50 percent as compared to 1993. The burden of this expense in the current account was reduced from 3.6 percent in 1993 to 2.4 percent in 1995.

A major transparency in public administration activities as pledged by the government in the last Consultative Group meeting was fulfilled. In 1995, the government regularly made public its political programs and economic results. Coordination with the international community was materialized through regular meetings between the government and donors — namely the Budget and Administration Group, the bi-monthly evaluation meetings — were held to assess the measures implemented and results that were achieved.

There was an improvement in the control of the collection of counterpart funds. The government also dealt transparently with the two incidents which occurred last year regarding the theft of foreign aid. These incidents did not weaken the government's improved management of its affairs.

The government is bent on investing in human resources for the country's future. We pledged to give priority to education and health and we did so. There was a real growth of 19 percent in the resources of the two sectors, despite the reduction in public expenditure.

The achievements, however, are encouraging. In the education sector, the number of schools increased by 11 percent and the total number of students in the general education by 9 percent. The rate of schooling increased considerable as compared to 1991.

In the health sector, 103 clinics were built, most of which were in rural areas, thus lessening the imbalances with urban areas. Moreover, the number of attendance at hospitals increased by 4 percent.

Mozambique's socioeconomic development can only be achieved through the growth of private investment, both local and foreign. The government's priority is to assure a favorable business atmosphere through economic policies by promoting the deceleration of inflation or through direct measures aimed at facilitating investment.

This was one of the main goals in the government's program in 1995. We are going to cite only measures deemed more relevant in this area.

— The privatization of the two state banks already has begun and is scheduled to end in 1996.

— We already have begun simplifying bureaucratic procedures necessary to start businesses, and access to facilities granted under the investment law has been automated.

— The privatization of big companies continued and we now have 45 new enterprises.

— A substantial part of public investment was directed at the reconstruction of infrastructure, particularly roads.

The government paid special attention to the promotion of exporting goods and services, permitting exporters to keep foreign currency earned with exports and have access to loans in foreign currency. It also began liberalizing cashew exports.

Moreover, a number of big ventures aimed at generating significant revenues in the future for the balance of payment already have been implemented, notably the renovation of power lines linking Mozambique and South Africa and the construction of lines linking the country to Zimbabwe and Malawi. The government also has begun negotiations on research, production, and transportation of natural gas from the Pande and Temane deposits.

Within the framework of the stabilization program, as we said earlier in the government's document, money collected from revenues and counterpart funds was lower than the planned target, and this led to cuts in investment expenses. Despite this, it was not possible to meet some of the program's targets. There was marked progress in reducing the budget deficit before donations

by about 12 percent of the gross domestic product compared with 1994.

Our pledge to implement measures to reduce major tax evasion was fulfilled. All measures planned on inspecting goods before shipment were carried out, and the management and upgrading of the customs department were performed as scheduled. We hope to see this reflected in increased revenues in 1996.

In the monetary policy, the government made considerable efforts to fulfill its program. This effort faced difficulties particularly because banks, in view of being privatized, did not fully meet their net asset requirements. Nevertheless, additional measures resulted in a drastic reduction of net assets in the year's last quarter.

The structural measures provided for in the program agreed upon with Bretton Woods institutions were, by and large, implemented in accordance with the planned timetable.

The efforts I just described produced visible results in the growth of private economic activities. It is estimated that production, excluding services, increased about 7 percent in 1995.

This achievement was partly due to agriculture, particularly the family sector, where traded products increased 18 percent.

In 1995, the government helped this sector, making some important decisions aimed at guaranteeing stability in land use. The National Land Policy was approved, while debates with the major partners have begun on the Land Law.

Another important decision concerns talks with South African authorities to enable farmers from that country to establish themselves in Mozambique. These may make a positive contribution for development, not only through increased food production, but also through the spread of modern agricultural techniques.

On industrial production, for the first time in five years there has been an increase, estimated at about 5 percent. This growth is due to a great extent to positive results in privatizations, particularly in the food, drinks, and cement sectors.

In transportation, the beneficial effect of renovating roads was felt, and we are expecting growth of about 13 percent. In this sector, we continued to restructure the Mozambique Railroad Company to improve its management. In this context, the government continued the process of handing over the management of the container, sugar, and coal terminals to the private sector. In 1995, the government, through cooperation and technical assistance, carried out research in this

field and came up with major recommendations on the restructuring and participation of the private sector in railroad and port activities. These recommendations will be made public next month at a seminar on the development of the Maputo corridor, and this clearly shows the importance the government gives to the role of private businessmen in this sector. At present, 12 railroad and port centers, including terminals, are managed by the private sector.

In the maritime sector, the process of privatization of enterprises continued, with the launching of tenders for two enterprises and a study on pre-privatization of two others. In the airline sector, the government continued to restructure Mozambique Airlines and opened the tender for the privatization of the TTA [National Air Transport and Service Enterprise].

Before ending my report on 1995, I would like to note that Mozambique took a significant step in reducing its foreign dependence. In fact, the trade balance deficit in dollars was reduced about 29 percent compared with 1994 and current transactions by 20 percent. These figures reflect both the growth of exports and services by 19 percent and the reduction of imports, excluding interest rates, by 5 percent.

This is a summary of efforts made by the government in 1995 and its main achievements. We are convinced that in many fields we have taken the first steps for the necessary reforms. However, we are happy with the progress made in the fundamental areas, following our pledges to the international community, and this was possible in view of the country's technical capacity.

It will be noted that in the document presented to the Consultative Group in 1995, the government defined the major lines of its program of action, not for one year but for the period of its mandate. Thus, activities in 1995 and what will be done in 1996 are in line with our plan. This year we will continue with the same guidelines, strengthening the reforms we started.

In this context, our main goal is to continue promoting socioeconomic growth and development within the framework of the progressive correction of external imbalances.

The government's attention also is focused on finding a balance between policies to curb demand, which are aimed at cutting inflation, and policies designed to promote the offering of goods.

It is clear that without vigorous growth in the economy, all short-term sacrifices to reduce inflation will be at stake in the medium term. Thus, it is an important point in the government's agenda to study measures for programs that can be implemented to help the growth of

production without putting the stabilization program's implementation at stake.

So in 1996 the basis of economic policy still will be strongly restrictive revenue and monetary policies to further cut inflation.

The second step in the economic program will be the reduction of the external deficit. In this context, the growth of exports and related programs will play a fundamental role.

In this context, the budget policy was drafted with the following aims in mind:

- to reduce the deficit before donations to about 3 percent of the gross domestic product;
- to increase the percentage of total expenditures financed through budget revenue; and
- the creation of savings accounts in the banking sector, amounting to 12 percent of budget revenue.

On monetary policy, the measures are also very restrictive, resulting in a 6 percent reduction of net assets compared with 1995. Moreover, the establishment of international asset reserves should reach about \$70 million.

In order for the restrictive policies not to have a decisive impact on the reduction of overall activities, it is necessary to assure that the scant resources available are allocated in programs that will best promote economic development.

The budget policy for 1996 paid particular attention to this principle, giving priority to actions that promote the development of human resources through improving the quantity and quality of state services in education and health. Thus, real growth in resources is expected for these sectors.

In health, the main goal is to continue increasing resources for primary care, and priority will be given to medical care to lower-income brackets, rural areas, and groups at major risk. The program for the construction of health posts also will continue in rural areas, and the renovation of hospitals as well.

In education, the government will continue to revamp schools to assure an increase of 28 percent in the number of primary schools compared with 1995. Priority also will be given to the extension of primary schools, particularly in rural areas, and improved quality of teaching is also among the main activities in the sector.

In 1996, the National Strategy for the Reduction of Poverty will continue to be implemented, and efforts will be directed at defining poverty levels as a suitable means of evaluating the impact of various programs on poverty. Programs aimed at lessening poverty will be

reviewed so as to increase efficiency in its implementation.

One of government's challenges is to guarantee peace and social stability. The social reintegration of demobilized soldiers is fundamental in this sector. Thus, about 3,200 demobilized and 140 war-maimed soldiers will receive professional training courses. The government also will finance microprojects to create working opportunities for about 6,240 demobilized soldiers from both the government and the Mozambique National Resistance. A process also is under way for more than 15,300 demobilized soldiers to receive state pensions.

The reinforcement of law is still one of the government's priorities, and additional funds are expected for both the judicial sector and the police.

The aforementioned priority is in line with the guiding principles defined in 1995, emphasizing crucial social development areas and the improvement of public services deemed more important.

This same approach can be extended to investment costs, where most resources are absorbed by sectors such as health, education, roads, water, and agriculture, with efforts in the latter geared toward support for the family sector.

The fiscal revenue sector will continue its work to improve customs control. January saw the start of more rigorous inspections prior to goods being loaded aboard ships and June should see the company that wins the bid working to improve customs management.

A review of customs' fiscal structure is also under way with the aim of making it simpler and adjusting it to our economic development aims. It is expected that there will be only three taxation levels to be implemented in line with the importance that the imported goods might have on the country's internal economic activity. By the same token, all customs exemptions will be listed and defined in terms of the impact they might have on economic growth. Another underlying component of this customs list review is to encourage economic agents to comply with their fiscal duties, thereby expanding the tax collection base to include a wider range of imports, which in turn will allow the tax to be lowered.

With regard to tax collection, work is under way to introduce a Value Added Tax.

In addition, efforts will continue to make Mozambique attractive to investors through the creation of conditions favoring trade. The following moves are noteworthy within this context:

- the winding up of privatizing state-owned banks in 1996;

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- the winding up of privatizing state-owned banks in 1996;

- the opening of the financial market to new national and foreign entities;
- the reinforcement of norms and perfecting the central bank's supervisory role within the financial system so as to ensure its correct operation;
- the continuation of the company privatization process;
- and the signing of program-contracts with a number of companies providing public services so as to increase their economic performance and reduce the state's intervention to support those sectors.

It is clear from the above that in 1996 the government will continue to work toward stimulating private initiative, reserving for the state the role of economic regulator.

Export promotion will continue through the following measures, among others:

- support for projects, including electricity, gas, mineral resources, wood, agricultural products, and tourism;
- restructuring public transportation companies to improve their effectiveness;
- support for the development of border trade with neighboring countries;
- increasing the hard currency percentage to be kept by the exporter;
- and strengthening public services for the exporter's benefit.

In short, the government's is committed above all to the following levels of intervention:

- the continued implementation of inflation-cutting macroeconomic policies;
- improved resource allocation to sectors best able to promote social and economic development;
- taking steps aimed at creating a good business climate that will foster increased private investment;
- and strengthening national statistical data.

In view of the country's weak institutional capacity, the complex work will demand a major effort from the government. We hope the international community will continue to provide us with the support and encouragement we need to continue this arduous work.

The foreign debt is another major source of concern to the government. It is clear that Mozambique needs aid in this regard to ensure its future external viability. The foreign debt can be used as a tool to promote the country's development by lessening budget burdens

such as the debt service and allowing it to be redirected to priority development areas.

I would not like to end without saying the government is well aware that its plans are not easy to implement. They involve fundamental choices and daily work requiring an enormous effort if one takes into account the country's weak institutional capacity.

Would that this effort were understood by all and that the international community would continue to back us. These are the wishes with which I would like to end my speech.

Zambia

Zambia: Vice President Wants Donors To 'Leave His Country Alone'

MB2704203196 Gaborone Radio Botswana Network in English 1910 GMT 27 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Zambia's vice president, Mr. Godfrey Miyanda, has called on donor nations to leave his country alone so it can make its own decisions. He said this in Kitwe today as the Zambian Government continued a campaign against what it called interference in the country's internal affairs. Mr. Miyanda said the relationship with the country's cooperating partners should not be that of master-servant.

The British High Commissioner to Zambia has been personally accused of tarnishing Zambia's image abroad to discourage foreign investment in the country because of alleged political and economic instability. The British High Commission has declined to comment on the matter. Donors have reportedly been critical of a lack of political tolerance by the government and a lack of transparency in the country's economic management.

Zambia: Editorial Castigates 'Hostile' British. U.S. Diplomacy

MB2504182996 (Internet) ZAMBIA TODAY in English 25 Apr 96

[Editorial originally published by ZANA on 25 April: "It's Diplomatically Immoral — Analysis"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The conduct of some of the diplomats accredited to Zambia is seen in political circles as not only an outrage but a reversal of the conventional roles of diplomats. Diplomats are primarily responsible for protecting the interests both short term and long term of their countries in the countries to which they are accredited.

It is also their task to project as fairly as possible the image of a country in which they serve for after all

ambassadors are supposed to make peace among nations to avoid or pre-empt wars.

Promotion of understanding among nations irrespective of size or levels of wealth and affluence is at the core of diplomacy. British diplomats in Lusaka led by what some Zambians regard as a very aggressive and provocative high commissioner Patrick Nixon have introduced a new and strange element in diplomacy.

The high commissioner is considered palpably hostile to Zambia and in particular the Government and the ruling party. High Commissioner Nixon is known to have vigorously campaigned in diplomatic circles and at every conceivable occasion for donors to withhold support to Zambia.

At Bournemouth, England, last December the British wanted donors to forestall pledges of assistance to Zambia.

They were actively supported by the Americans. The more responsible countries in the donor community which did not share the Anglo-Saxon pettiness felt to the contrary. Thanks to this coalition of countries mainly Germany, the Netherlands, France, Japan and humanitarian Scandinavian countries, Zambia received a very generous package.

The British have since intensified their pressure on the donors including the multi-laterals to withhold balance of payments support to Zambia. The pretext is the intangible governance issues.

High Commissioner Nixon's crusade has now extended to poisoning British businesses in Zambia. Accordingly, he called a meeting at his residence on April 16, attended by big companies such as Barclays Bank, Standard Chartered, Leyland Daf, Zambia Sugar Company and ERZ [expansion unknown].

The high commissioner told the businessmen Zambia was in a situation of acute crisis both from a political and economic point of view. The donor community have now decided not to release any further funds to Zambia. This, of course, was the wish of the British which the more sensitive and responsible donors do not subscribe to. According to the British high commissioner the supposed withholding of assistance to Zambia was because of the constitution and the porous state of ZCCM [Zambia Consolidated Copper Mines] which in the view of Mr Nixon was on the brink of collapse any time.

One or two of the businessmen who attended the meeting said they found the whole exercise most depressing and rather diabolical in the sense that companies that

made hefty profits joined in the shameful chorus of condemnation of Zambia.

One such individual felt that it was immoral for businesses which operated in a country to jubilantly join efforts aimed at undermining the country that hosted them and which was struggling to put together an economy shattered by three decades of abominable governance.

The case of one foreign bank was a classic example of betrayal. As soon as exchange controls were abolished the bank remitted K4 billion [kwacha] to its principals in London — the sum was more than twice the paid up capital of the bank. Should a bank doing so well join in the treachery against Zambia?

Britain and Zambia have long and immutable historic connections. Many Britons who have lived in Zambia have attachment to the country which they wish every success.

The British tax-payers expect their diplomats to promote trade and good relations and have a longer view of things because Zambia will one day be on its feet.

It may be a small country currently dependent on international charity but it is a country with a future because it has rich endowments in its people and other resources.

Zambia has been the host of liberation movements and its skilled manpower serves in the neighbouring countries — there are over 2,000 professionals in Botswana who left looking for better opportunities.

Sensible diplomats think Zambia cannot be marginalised and that the donors having come a long way in their massive support for Zambia should not withhold assistance at a time when it has made enormous strides to restructure the economy.

They noted the effort to consolidate democracy, to strive for consensus, the consultation and dialogue on most political issues. The slippages in governance where they occur are identified and brought to the attention of the authorities but these do not constitute a case for economic sanctions against Zambia.

Informed citizens are concerned that the government is not doing enough to counteract the hostility towards Zambia orchestrated by the neo-colonialist British diplomats who if Zambia had enough leeway would have shown them the door.

London should rethink the role of its diplomats in Lusaka for both Britain and Zambia have invested much over the years in cordial and harmonious relations. The withholding of British aid should not be allowed to disturb the historic bonds between the two countries.

The British must stop trying to unduly influence other donor countries to follow their mean example.

Zambia: Union Blames Government for Decline in Agriculture

MB2904141796 Lusaka THE POST in English
29 Apr 96

[Report by Joe Kaunda: "ZNFU Blames Government Over Agriculture Decline" — received via Internet]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Zambia National Farmers Union (ZNFU) last week attributed the near collapse of the country's agricultural sector to the shift in government's priorities.

Speaking at the official opening of the ZNFU 91 congress last Thursday [25 April], ZNFU president Ben Kapita said the drop in the productivity of the sector and the resultant continued "food begging" was a clear indication of the failed agricultural policies and lack of government support for the farming industry.

"It is a well known fact that even trading has received better treatment from our government than agriculture which has become a Cinderella sector," Kapita charged.

The ZNFU president further called for the maximising of tax incentives in the agricultural sector to enable it meet government's target of five per cent annual growth. "The major factor restricting growth is limited in finance," Kapita said. "It is therefore imperative to maximise the investment capacity of the sector by minimising input taxes."

Kapita complained that despite the Zero rating on some of the inputs, "the sector is still heavily taxed by both government and now increasingly by the councils". He further attributed the decline in production to other unattended problems the sector had been encountering such as insufficient debt relief, poor state of rural infrastructure and a failed crop marketing system.

He further challenged the government to explain where funds collected from the fuel and electricity levy were being channelled, as the farmers had not benefitted from such money. "We want to know where the money is or if at all the funds have been plundered," Kapita said. "The Mkushi farming block which was to benefit from the funds still remains in the dark and the feeder roads are still in an appalling state which begs the question as to how the levy was used."

Reacting to Kapita's sentiments agriculture minister Suresh Desai, in an interview last Thursday, urged the ZNFU president to "adequately research" before criticising the government.

Desai explained that incentives had been granted to the sector through the VAT Zero rating of most inputs. "What Kapita is saying is far from the truth, and I can only say it is because of lack of information on his part," Desai said. "I advise him to research adequately before criticising government efforts."

Desai added: "The government is still committed to the development of the agriculture sector as can be seen by the coming of the ASIP [expansion unknown] programme although I must admit that it will take long to implement."

But Desai could not disclose which areas had benefitted from the money collected from the fuel and electricity levy. Desai also disclosed that his ministry was setting up a US\$10 million Rural Investment Fund that would be coordinated by the ZNFU executive director, George Grey.

Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe: Thousands of Workers Demonstrate Over Price Increases

MB2804204396 London BBC World Service
in English 1705 GMT 28 Apr 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Thousands of Zimbabwean workers have taken to the streets this weekend in a series of countrywide demonstrations organized by the main trade union federation, ZCTU [Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions]. It coincides with the annual round of pay bargaining between employers and employees. The union leadership has been openly critical of some of the policies Zimbabwe has adopted over the last five years under the government's economic structural adjustment program. On the line to Harare, Josephine Hazeley asked journalist Chris Chinaka of REUTERS News Agency how big yesterday's turnout was.

[Begin recording] [Chinaka] There were about 2,000 people in the Harare demonstration. There were about 3,000 in the demonstration held in Bulawayo, the second largest city, and another 3,000 in Gweru, the third largest city.

[Hazeley] Now, by Zimbabwean standard, was that a good turnout?

[Chinaka] Yes, it was considering it was on a weekend when most workers are out of their offices or workplaces and most people go to their rural homes, and also that it was during the international trade fair being held in Bulawayo, which is a very big crowd puller, the numbers were, I think, fairly impressive.

[Hazeley] Now, the demonstration that you saw in Harare, was this good-natured or were there angry scenes?

[Chinaka] It was fairly good-natured, except for the placards, I mean, people were singing fairly in a jolly mood, but there was a heavy police presence there, I mean dozens of armed police escorted the demonstrators through central Harare. But the secretary general of the trade union Morgan Tsvangirayi, gave a very emotional address to the workers, basically working them up, saying we have to put an end to these endless rises in prices.

[Hazeley] Now, what did their banners say?

[Chinaka] The placards basically carried messages condemning price rises. You had placards like to hell with price rises; when shall this end?; when will Zimbabwean

workers' status improve?; and we demand the right to decent lives; government, companies, please stop killing us; and that sort.

[Hazeley] Now, what would be the impact of these demonstrations on the government on one hand and the companies on the other? What do you think this demonstration will achieve?

[Chinaka] I think basically it (?strengthens) the trade unions who are in the process at the moment of negotiating salary rises for the year. The numbers would strengthen their hand in negotiation. Whether the government eventually would accept, that is another thing. They have just gone through an election and there will be no political price to pay if they told the workers: No, we can't accept your demands. [end recording]

Benin**Benin: Government Delegation Visits Ogoni
Refugee Camp To Assess Conditions**

AB2604181296 Cotonou Office de
Radiodiffusion-Télévision du Benin Radio in French
1930 GMT 25 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] The problem of Ogoni asylum seekers from Nigeria is of concern to the Beninese Government: A ministerial delegation went to Come today to assess the living conditions of the Ogonis there. Ouadi Boukary has the details.

[Begin recording] [Boukary] Come, with its refugee camp, an uncompleted 100-bed hospital, the reception center for the Ogoni asylum seekers, was the town chosen for the contact and working session between the Beninese authorities and these foreigners. Problems abound here as they do in other refugee camps. According to Epiphane Melonie, Red Cross coordinator in charge of the camp, the problems include lack of adequate rooms, food supplies, and medical care. These could be exacerbated if the government does not take efficient measures. Everyone is aware of these problems. However, the main crisis facing the Ogonis is that of security. Here is what one of them said.

[Unidentified Ogoni refugee, in English fading into French report] Most of our people are staying in the bush in Nigeria till today. He stressed the security problem, saying that Come town center is not far from their country of origin. They have noticed several attempts by Nigerian authorities to obtain further details on where they are living and their leaders. They are quite worried about this. They cannot get to sleep at night and are forced to mount guard with their children. He hopes that measures will be taken to improve the security situation.

[Boukary] The other problem facing the Ogoni asylum seekers, estimated to be about 900, is that of their status as refugees. Their documents are being examined, and this is of concern to them. They are wondering what their fate will be. Interior Minister Theophile Ndah and Foreign Minister Pierre Osho reassured the Nigerians that procedures will be conducted in line with international conventions on the status of refugees in Benin, as well as the OAU convention on the status of refugees in Africa. This was a source of great joy to the Ogonis, who saw that as a reassurance that they had been accepted and that their security would be guaranteed. [end recording]

The Gambia**The Gambia: Journalists Celebrate Firing of
Justice Minister**

AB2404203796 London BBC World Service
in English 1705 GMT 24 Apr 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Things are beginning to look up a bit for The Gambia's beleaguered press. It had a cat and mouse relationship with the military government of Yahya Jammeh who seized power in July 1994. But yesterday, the minister of justice and attorney general, Musa Bittaye, got the sack. He was seen as hounding The Gambia's press, especially by taking newspapers to court. Publishers, editors, and journalists celebrated. But before it had died down, there has been more good news for The Gambia's press. On the line, Robin White asked Ibrahima Seesay of the DAILY OBSERVER what it was:

[Begin recording] [Seesay] Indeed, Robin, more good news has come. Let me tell you that the editors and publishers of all the private newspapers who were recently sued by the state have been discharged; they have been freed from the charges that were leveled against them. And this morning when I went to court I was discharged, I was released, so I am very, very excited.

[White] And I gather that the government has also changed its mind today on a magistrate who was previously sacked?

[Seesay] Yes, Robin, that is true. Magistrate (Boodi Turay) who was recently sacked for having ruled against the state has today been reinstated and, in fact, this morning he was at his office. So that is another positive news; that is another good news, and everybody is happy with the fact that (Boodi Turay) who is seen to be a very hard working magistrate has been sent back to his job.

[White] Why do you think all this has suddenly happened?

[Seesay] Yeah, it only exposes the kind of attorney general we had; it only confirms that the attorney general who was kicked out of office yesterday was behind all these things. The fact that just a day after he was kicked out all these decisions are being changed suggests or confirms that [words indistinct] developments which did not in any way tell good to the image of the government.

[White] You think other major changes might be underway?

[Seesay] Oh, no doubt, no doubt about that. People really feel or believe that now the AFPRC [Armed Forces Provisional Ruling Council] is going toward the proper direction. Sometimes, to tell you the truth, I think they have good intentions but unfortunately people who advise them do not advise them properly. This is a typical example. The man was just ill advising them, but now he has been exposed.

[White] So might there now be real progress, do you think, toward a return to civilian rule?

[Seesay] Robin, I am one of the bitterest critics of this regime, but I must admit that they have some sincere plans. It's just that people close to them sometimes do not tell the truth. But the way things are going, especially in the wake of the dismissal of this minister, I have the feeling or it is believed in many quarters that elections will definitely go ahead, will take place.

[White] But when?

[Seesay] Well, a specific day has not yet been fixed, but based on the timetable given by the Independent Electoral Commission, there is no doubt that elections would take place or should take place in November. [end recording]

Liberia

Liberia: Aid Group Announces Return; WHO Reports 'at Least' 240 Dead

LD2504202896 Paris Radio France International in French 1730 GMT 25 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Action Contre la Faim [Action Against Hunger] says a team of volunteers is returning to Liberia. The team was evacuated at the height of the violence in Monrovia a few days ago. The team will be trying, in particular, to seek a solution to a serious shortage of drinking water that has hit the Liberian capital.

Also, the World Health Organization [WHO] reported today that at least 240 people have died in Liberia following the recent fighting in the capital and the worsening of sanitary conditions.

Liberia: Johnson Fighters Set Up Roadblocks in Monrovia

AB2604201496 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 26 Apr 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Under the cease-fire agreement by the rival factions in the Liberian capital, Monrovia, militias were supposed to pull back from their hostile positions, with militias of Alhaji Kromah and Charles

Taylor laying siege to the Barclay Training Center sheltering Krahn supporters of wanted faction leader Roosevelt Johnson, fighters of the LPC [Liberian Peace Council] and the AFL [Armed Forces of Liberia]. Well, fighting has subsided this week, but there have been skirmishes in eastern suburbs. But it seems Johnson's men are still maintaining a high — even a provocative — profile, trying to cease control of parts of the capital's by-pass and setting up checkpoints in the area. From Monrovia, Nyenati Allison telexed this report:

Hundreds of people who tried to pass through the occupied area today were searched by Johnson's men and stripped of their valuables. Journalists who attempted to drive to the occupied zone this afternoon, were advised by African peacekeeping troops nearby that it was still not safe. From a distance, we could see red pieces of cloth dangling as a warning on makeshift checkpoints. Armed fighters brandished assault rifles. The reoccupation of the capital by-pass comes one day after Roosevelt Johnson pulled his forces back to the Barclay Training Center following appeals made by ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] peace negotiators. Military sources in the capital say that Johnson's reoccupation of the by-pass was an attempt to create a safe zone around the eastern entry to the Barclay Training Center.

This afternoon, thousands of jubilant LPC and ULIMO-J [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia-Johnson faction] fighters brandishing knives and machetes drove through parts of the capital chanting war slogans in Krahn and Sapo.

Meanwhile, a joint team of WHO and ICRC [International Committee of the Red Cross] have begun a tedious process of collecting corpses from around the capital. Seventy two bodies had been disposed of in the past two days and some 15 others, mainly those of the combatants who were given temporary burial on the beaches have been exhumed to be given a proper burial at a cemetery in down-town Monrovia. Medical students near St. Joseph's Catholic Hospital said that they were forced to bury a body washed ashore by high tides this morning to avoid contamination of their dormitory nearby. Forensic pathologist Dr. Isaac Moses said security problems were preventing the team from reaching (Jeila) Town and the Barclay Training Center where mass graves have formed dunes on the beaches.

Liberia: Factional Fighting in Southeast Spreads to Other Counties

AB2704191096 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 27 Apr 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] As they struggle to implement the cease-fire in Monrovia, Liberia, between the rival factions of Roosevelt Johnson on one side and Charles Taylor and Alhaji Koromah, on the other, conflict has been spreading in the south east of the country. It is between George Boley's LPC [Liberian Peace Council] and Taylor's NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia]. Reports earlier this week spoke of a big offensive by the LPC against NPFL positions. On the line to Monrovia, Josephine Hazely asked our reporter, Jonathan Peleyle, what the latest information was on the fighting:

[Begin recording] [Peleyle] Well, the information that we are getting from people fleeing the area and also from peacekeeping sources is that the fighting has now spread to neighboring Sinoe and Grand Gedeh Counties. The fighting started in Maryland County last week and the information now is that the fighting has spread to Sinoe and Grand Gedeh counties with NPFL on the offensive.

[Hazely] Now, what have they been fighting with exactly?

[Peleyle] AK-47's are widely used in the fighting here but we have also heard from people fleeing the area that sounds of different explosions and artillery bombardment could be heard across the region. So, one cannot not rule out the possibility that they are using artillery pieces in the latest fighting.

[Hazely] What do you know sparked off this recent wave of fighting?

[Peleyle] From all indications, I think the fighting in the south eastern region now is because Councilman George Boley, who is the head of the Liberian Peace Council, has not been in support of the recent attempts in Monrovia to arrest Roosevelt Johnson which sparked off a war in the city; and a few weeks ago, he said in an interview on this program that he was coming to join his people. He didn't say why he was coming to fight but as head of a warring faction, the fact that he said this and his people started attacking NPFL positions in the south eastern region could make anyone to conclude that it is (?the cause, or) Councilman George Boley is now [(?imputed with) what went on in Monrovia over these few weeks.

[Hazely] The people fleeing the fighting, where are they now?

[Peleyle] Okay, some of them reached the capital by way of the forest way of Tabou. They first fled to Tabou and made their way on the other side and again entered Liberia. Some have come to the capital in Monrovia. [end recording]

Liberia: Armed Fighters Break 9-Day Ceasefire

AB2804202396 Paris AFP in English 2014 GMT 28 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Monrovia, April 28 (AFP) — Militias believed to be Krahn fighters late Sunday [28 April] broke the nine-day-old ceasefire with sporadic shooting near the army barracks here.

"We do not know who is doing the shooting, but the sounds of gunfire are coming from Lynch Street near the BTC (military Barclay Training Center," said one fleeing civilian among others carrying mattresses.

The fugitive also said some sporadic shooting went on for hours Saturday night near the BTC.

"ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] deployed in the area asked us to remain indoors, and the shooting died down by dawn," a female fugitive said on her way back to the Greystone displaced center near the U.S. Embassy.

Fighters of the Krahn wing of the United Liberation Movement, ULIMO-J, and those of the Liberia Peace Council, LPC, are holed up at the BTC.

A peacekeeper who arrived at Mamba Point in an ECOMOG truck said the shooting sounded from the BTC.

Residents of the diplomatic quarters of Mamba Point began hearing the sounds of gunshots at around 1845 GMT.

But ECOMOG soldiers quickly took combat positions and asked civilians to keep off the streets.

The shooting later died down after nearly 30 minutes.

Liberia: ECOMOG Troops 'Still' Trying To Ease 'Tense' Situation

AB2804185596 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 28 Apr 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] troops in Liberia are still trying to ease the tense security situation which has made the Barclay Training Center [BTC] in the capital a virtual no-go area. BTC

became the focus of resistance by Roosevelt Johnson's ULIMO-J [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia-Johnson faction] forces against attacks carried out by the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] and ULIMO-K [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia-Koromah faction], both of which are led by members of Liberia's ruling Council of State who said they were carrying out a government order to have Johnson arrested for murder, but it seems ECOMOG's efforts may be yielding results. Our Monrovia correspondent, Nyenau Allison, telexed this report:

Roosevelt Johnson's armed loyalists have pulled out of the capital's main bypass, making the road accessible to pedestrians and others returning home to the area. African peacekeeping force sources today said the fighters went back to the Barclay Training Center, BTC, following their intervention on Saturday [27 April]. The withdrawal of the militiamen has allowed for further redeployment of ECOMOG troops into Jala Town, once the scene of clashes between rival militias.

However, the continued presence of armed groups at the BTC has become the latest bone of contention in the current round of peace talks in the capital. People involved in the initiative to break the stalemate between the transitional government and Roosevelt Johnson said today that the government was now requesting that the barracks be turned into a housing estate. This will mean the eviction of all armed groups, including the Armed Forces of Liberia who will then make Camp Schieffelin, in the east of the capital, their headquarters. It is understood that forces of the Liberian Peace Council and Johnson's loyalists were to leave behind their weapons when they vacate the BTC barracks. Roosevelt Johnson himself has asked for a safe corridor to his headquarters at Tubmanburg, but the African peacekeeping forces have said that they have no immediate response to Johnson's request.

In an overnight broadcast on state radio, State Council Chairman Wilton Sankawolo said the government has halted attacks on the BTC because of the large presence of civilians there. Peacekeeping sources have also said that the continuous presence of armed NPFL fighters in the streets of the eastern Sincor suburb was preventing the mass movement of returnees to the area. They therefore urged the NPFL to follow the example of the ULIMO-K which has pulled back its fighters.

Nigeria

Nigeria: Cameroonian Attack on Bakassi Reported
*AB2604200196 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network
in English 1800 GMT 26 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] For the third time this week, Cameroonian soldiers have attacked Nigerians in the Bakassi peninsula. The latest offensive occurred on Wednesday [24 April], when Cameroonians ambushed a patrol vehicle, killing a Nigerian soldier and wounding two others. A statement by the Defense Headquarters today says the soldiers were on their routine patrol when the incident occurred. Nigerian positions were first attacked by the Cameroonian soldiers on Sunday [21 April] and again on Tuesday this week. The shelling of the Nigerian positions was combined by artillery and mortar fire supported by helicopter gunshots. In a statement issued on Wednesday by the minister of information and culture, Dr. Walter Ofonagoro, the Federal Government warned Cameroon to desist from acts of aggression at Bakassi.

Nigeria: Defense Ministry Spokesman Reports 1 Dead in 24 Apr Clash

*AB2604123696 Paris AFP in French
GMT 96 1205 GMT 26 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] Lagos, 26 Apr (AFP) — Another incident which occurred on 24 April between the Nigerian and Cameroonian forces in the Bakassi peninsula, in the Gulf of Guinea, has left one person dead and two others wounded on the Nigerian side. This was stated today in Lagos by Colonel Godwin Ugbo, deputy spokesman of the Nigerian Defense Ministry. [Paris AFP in English on 26 April at 1322 GMT adds: "Cameroonian forces in the disputed Bakassi peninsula have killed one Nigerian soldier and left two others wounded in an ambush, Defence Ministry deputy spokesman Colonel Godwin Ugbo said Friday [26 April].

"Ugbo said a Nigerian military vehicle carrying out a routine patrol of Nigerian positions in the border territory on the Gulf of Guinea was ambushed in an attack on Wednesday.

"He accused Cameroon of carrying out offensive operations since the start of the week, but added that the situation was calm on Friday."]

Nigeria: U.S. Criticism on Liberian Role Called 'Unwarranted'

AB2604113396 London BBC World Service in English 0630 GMT 26 Apr 96

[From the African news]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Nigeria has welcomed an announcement by the United States that it is prepared to contribute \$30 million to the West African peacekeeping force in Liberia, ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group], but the Nigerian authorities said the American condition that the money would only be granted if the force could show it could be more effective was an unwarranted criticism of Nigeria's role.

BBC's correspondent in Nigeria says that there has been criticism of ECOMOG, to which Nigeria is the biggest contributor, for not being more active in preventing the recent fighting between the factions in Liberia.

Nigeria: Muslim Youth Blame U.S. for Saudi Ban on Pilgrims

AB2604201796 Kaduna Radio Nigeria in English 1700 GMT 26 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Some Muslim youth today held a peaceful procession to the central Jimat mosque in Minna [Niger State] in protest against the denial of majority of the Nigerian pilgrims from performing this year's hajj. The peaceful demonstrators carried placards accusing America of being responsible for the action. Other placards carried inscriptions such as Down With Oppressors Who Disqualified Nigerian Muslims From Performing The Hajj. The procession went round major streets after the general furor without any unpleasant incidents.

Nigeria: Commonwealth To Place Restrictions on Nigeria in 'Next 30 Days'

MB2604192696 Harare Zimbabwe National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1800 GMT 26 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group on the Harare Declaration has reviewed measures that will be implemented against the Nigerian Government with regards to the increase in human rights violations. The chairman of the committee, Dr. Stan Mudenge, Zimbabwe's foreign minister, told a news conference in Harare today that within the next 30 days the Commonwealth member states will impose visa restrictions on members of the Nigerian regime and their families.

Furthermore, member states will, among other things, withdraw military attaches and impose a cessation of military training, embargo on export of arms, and denial of educational facilities. The measures were mapped out when the group met at (Marlborough) House in London. Dr. Mudenge said these measures will be considered in consultation with the European Union, the United States, and other members of the international community.

Nigeria: Government To Penalize Vendors of Nonregistered Newspapers

AB2604191396 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 0600 GMT 26 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Newspaper vendors who patronize nonregistered publications are to be penalized. The Newspapers Registration Board gave the warning in a statement in Lagos. It advised print media houses whose owners had met the conditions for registration set out in the enabling decree to register with it without further delay.

The statement reiterated that newspaper houses which register with any other body would face the law. The Newspapers Registration Board is empowered by the Constitution's Expression and Modification Decree of 1993 to register news publications whose owners have met the conditions for registration set out in the decree.

Senegal

Senegal: Several Injured in Student Clash With Police

AB2504171296 London BBC World Service in English 1505 GMT 25 Apr 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] There was a time when student disturbances were regular occurrences in Dakar, the capital of Senegal, but all has been quite on the campus for the past two years. Now the calm has been shattered. Students planned a protest march about the cut in their grants, permission was refused, the students went ahead defiantly, but security forces were ready for them, as Joseph Winter reports from Dakar.

[Begin Winter recording] Dakar University today resembled a battleground. The tarmac is littered with stones while the acrid smell of tear gas lingers on in the air. When I arrived, policemen were roaming the halls of residence looking for students. They were kicking down the doors and dragging out the occupants — men and women — hitting them savagely with rubber truncheons. I saw one student whose head was bleeding

profusely say that he would go quietly. The policemen responded by punching him in the face, the signal for his colleagues to liaise with [word indistinct]. When I asked the man in charge of the police operation, Koroma Sey, whether his men were not overdoing it, he was unrepentant, saying that's the police force. Seconds later, I turned my head at the sound of ear-splitting screams. A student who had allegedly thrown a stone was being bundled into a police van. Once inside five or six policemen beat him around the head with their truncheons. I was prevented from going closer, but through the [word indistinct] windows I distinguished a rifle butt being

used to choke the young man. The violence was not all one-sided however. At least a captain had to be taken to hospital after a stone hit him in the head, but I was told he was not seriously wounded. Before they were dispersed the crowd of 200 students attacked CRUD, the center for the university administration, breaking several windows and damaging parked cars. A policeman told me that between 10 and 15 students had been taken in for questioning and that they would be released immediately. However, he did not say what state they would be in. [end recording]

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